

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support

MAY-12-2004 07:25

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF VENTURA**

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
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From the Desk of **STEVE BENNETT**
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May 11, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for Farmont Ranch Restoration Funding

Dear Chair Morabito and Conservancy Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong support for the staff-recommended funding for Farmont Ranch restoration projects by the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC). The OVLC has already made tremendous progress both on establishing an operating endowment for the Farmont Ranch and acquiring, developing and opening trailheads and trails. The additional funding will enable rapid implementation of their restoration and access plan as well as serve as funding leverage for additional fund-raising efforts.

The OVLC stands out as a leading example of a successful private nonprofit land conservancy, and its success is serving to inspire other local and regional endeavors. The OVLC has already acquired from an adjoining property owner the rights to develop a public trailhead and parking lot and completed construction of these improvements. Local financial and in-kind support of the OVLC remains very high, and the funding as recommended by your staff will serve to further stimulate private sector interest in the project by opening six miles of trail to public access.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Bennett".

Steve Bennett
Supervisor, First District

TOTAL P.02